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DEC 10 2001
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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

JAN 08 2002 APPLICANT: Mathus et al.

GROUP: 1743

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE SERIAL NO: 09/457,796

EXAMINER: P. Bex

FILED: 12/09/99

FOR: TUBE RACK

Box Amendment
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RECEIVED
JAN 14 2002
TC 1700

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed 09/26/01, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Subject to the examiner's approval, when formal drawings are submitted, Figures 1 and 12 will be revised to include the additional reference numerals indicated in red on the attached photocopies.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- FIG. 9 is a sectional view taken along line A-A in FIG. 7 to illustrate the depth of pads within the opening. In an alternative embodiment, it